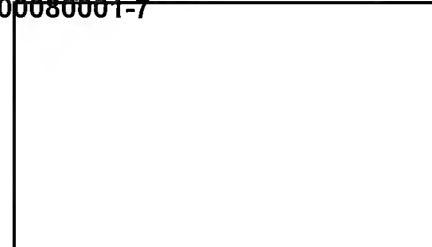


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Director of
Central
Intelligence

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National Intelligence Daily

*Friday
9 February 1979*

State Dept. review completed

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IRAN

A senior official of the Liberation Movement of Iran told the US Embassy yesterday that Ayatollah Khomeini's premier-designate, Mehdi Bazargan, may name his cabinet today. Bazargan plans to follow up the announcement with a gradual takeover of government ministries in the next few days. If the military tries to prevent this, Bazargan will urge government workers to move to new locations.

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This strategy reflects a change from Bazargan's original plan to have the parliament vote Prime Minister Bakhtiar out of office.

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Bazargan's supporters have concluded they lack the votes at this time to oust Bakhtiar, although they may still employ this tactic at a later date.

[redacted]

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The Islamic opposition already has a substantial number of supporters in the government ministries.

[redacted]

Bakhtiar yesterday reiterated his intention not to relinquish power to Khomeini's provisional government if it tries to occupy the ministries. Bakhtiar undoubtedly realizes that it would be difficult to hold the military in line if he accepts a deal with the opposition that is not in keeping with the constitution. Judging from his recent comments, Bakhtiar is also skeptical that the Islamic opposition will live up to its promise of creating a democratic regime.

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OVERNIGHT REPORTS

(The items in the Overnight Reports section have not been coordinated within the intelligence community. They are prepared overnight by the Office of Current Operations with analyst comment where possible from the production offices of NFAC.)

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Iran

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a US Embassy official yesterday that the National Front would not participate in a Bazargan government. [redacted] told [redacted] the Front, which is "disgusted" with the Khomeini group, is confident that it will be running things in Iran within three months. [redacted]

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COMMENT: [redacted] probably reflects the fact that the National Front is playing only a small role in the current political maneuvering and what little popular support it has may be ebbing away. [redacted]

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[redacted]

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Poland

According to press reports, two members of Poland's party Politburo were removed from their posts as Deputy Premiers and appointed heads of government ministries. This action, announced by Premier Jaroszewicz at a session of the parliament yesterday, reduces the number of Deputy Premiers from nine to six. The two removed were Jozef Kepa and Jozef Tejchma; another Deputy Premier, Franciszek Kaim, who is not on the Politburo, was also removed from his post. Jaroszewicz said only that the reshuffle was intended to streamline the government's performance.

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COMMENT: No high-level changes have been made in the Polish Government in over a year. Yesterday's personnel shifts are likely to be followed by additional changes over the next several months.

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Botswana-Rhodesia

The US Embassy in Botswana reports that neither the Botswanan Government nor the Danish air-charter firm is deterred by Rhodesian threats to stop the airlift of refugees to Zambia. In enlarging on Botswana's reasons for continuing the airlift despite the risks, Presidential Administrative Secretary Tibone told the Embassy that the large and growing number of refugees could pose "security problems" to Botswana if they remain, and "we will have no one to help us in any event." The Embassy concludes that Botswana is clearly aware of the risks involved but is nevertheless intent on proceeding with the airlift, thus engaging Rhodesia in a serious confrontation of wills.

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